Notice of Allowability  The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) C herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropria NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This applies of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.  1. This communication is responsive to the amendment filed May 12, 2004.  2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 16-24.  3. The drawings filed on 01 March 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.  4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 1 a)   All   b)   Some*   c)   None   of the:  1.   Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2.   Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2.   Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in 3.   Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  * Certified copies not received:   Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communica noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this applic THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.  5.   A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the atta INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why ti necessary including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawit 1)   hereto or 2)   to Paper No./Mail Date (b)   including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawit 1)   hereto or 2)   to Paper No./Mail Date (b)   including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Co Paper No./Mail Date (b)   including changes required by the Attached Examiner's Amendment / Co Paper No./Mail Date (b)   including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Co Paper No./Mail Date (b)   including changes required by the Attached Examiner's Amendment / Co Paper No./M	LOSED in this application. If not included te communication will be mailed in due course. THIS
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTOL-37 (Rev. 1-04) Application/Control Number: 10/087,656

Art Unit: 3683

## **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach a locking mechanism providing a single audible indication to an operator that a brake pedal has been latched in a locked position.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melanie Torres whose telephone number is (703)305-0293. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 6:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Lavinder can be reached on (703)308-3421. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Application/Control Number: 10/087,656 Page 3

Art Unit: 3683

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MT July 21, 2004

ROBERT A SICONOLFI 1/23/09
PATENT EXAMINER